

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-30 (cancelled)

Claim 31 (previously presented) A combination paintball gun and paintball loader including a storage hopper for storing a supply of paintballs, the combination comprising:

a loader neck formed on the paintball loader for supplying paintballs from the storage hopper;

a feed tube formed on the paintball gun for receiving paintballs from the paintball loader;

an adapter cylinder attachable to the feed tube of the paintball gun, the adapter cylinder being sized to receive the loader neck of the paintball loader, the adapter cylinder including an externally threaded connector portion; and

a collet receivable on the connector portion of the adapter cylinder, the collet having a tapered inner surface having a series of internal threads formed thereon, wherein the movement of the collet along the connector portion compresses the connector portion.

Claims 32 (previously presented) The combination of claim 31 further comprising a resilient O-ring positioned along the inner surface of the collet, wherein the resilient O-ring compresses upon insertion of the loader neck of the paintball loader of the collet.

Claim 33 (previously presented) The combination of claim 31 wherein the attachment cylinder is press fit within the feed tube formed on the paintball gun.

Claim 34 (previously presented) A combination paintball gun, paintball loader and feed adapter for use in selectively connecting and disconnecting a loader neck of a paintball loader to a feed tube of the paintball gun, the combination comprising:

at least one threaded connector portion formed on one side of the loader neck and feed tube;

a releasably attachable, hand tightenable collet positionable on the connector portion, the collet having a series of internal threads configured to receive the connector portion; and

a resilient O-ring positioned along an inner surface of the collet, wherein the resilient o-ring deforms to form a positive fit between the loader neck and feed tube as a said collet is moved along the connector portion.

Claim 35 (previously presented) The combination of claim 34 wherein the connector portion is formed on the feed tube of the paintball gun,

Claim 36 (previously presented) The combination of claim 34 wherein the collet includes a plurality of O-rings formed along its inner surface.

Claim 37 (cancelled)

Claim 38 (cancelled)